

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Serial Number: 10/698,650

Filing Date: October 31, 2003

Title: INTEGRAL FLEXIBLE SPINE STABILIZATION DEVICE AND METHOD

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**REMARKS**

In the Restriction Requirement dated February 22, 2006, the Examiner required an election to one of the following groups of claims:

- I. Claims 1-7
- II. Claims 8-30

Applicant elects, without traverse, Group I (claims 1 -7) and Species C having claims 1 - 30. In addition, claims 21 - 30 are amended to correct a numbering error in the claims as originally filed. The non-elected claims, claims 8 - 30, are withdrawn. As a result, claims 1 - 7 are now pending in this application.

**CONCLUSION**

The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's representative at (612) 349-9592 to facilitate the prosecution of this application. If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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By his Representatives,

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Date March 24, 2006 By Ann M. McCrackin  
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Date of Deposit: March 24, 2006

This paper or fee is being filed on the date indicated above, using the USPTO's electronic filing system EFS-Web, and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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